

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S/PRS:JMORDWAY:MDK

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 124588 TOSEC 130090

FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE, EVENING, MAY 20, 1976

NO. 7

WIRES

1. AP (FREED)--"AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY WILL REMAIN
ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED NO MATTER WHO IS ELECTED PRESIDENT,
SECSTATE KISSINGER TOLD A NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
MEETING, ACCORDING TO DIPLOMATS WHO HEARD HIS SPEECH.

"HAK ALSO TOLD THE GROUP THAT SOVIET LEADERS ARE UNDER
SOME TEMPTATION FROM IDEOLOGISTS TO USE THEIR GROWING
MILITARY STRENGTH, BUT THAT HE DOES NOT THINK THE SOVIET
UNION IS BENT ON WORLD DOMINATION. . . .

"CONFERENCE RULES PROHIBITED DELEGATES FROM GIVING
STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS. BUT AS USUAL AT NATO MEETINGS,
THE BAN WAS WIDELY VIOLATED. U.S. REPRESENTATIVES WERE
AMONG THE FEW REFUSING TO DISCUSS WHAT WENT ON.

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DIPLOMATS WHO ATTENDED KISSINGER'S SPEECH SAID THE

SECRETARY REVIEWED THE AMERICAN DOMESTIC DEBATE ON
DETENTE WITH THE SOVIET UNION, OUTLINING A LOGICAL SET OF

IMPERATIVES WHICH HE SAID WOULD LOCK THE NEXT PRESIDENT,
DEMOCRAT OR REPUBLICAN, INTO THE PRESENT POLICY EVEN IF
KISSINGER IS NO LONGER IN OFFICE.

"A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL ADMITTED BEFORE TODAY'S MEETING
THAT THE CURRENT PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN HAS SLOWED
KISSINGER'S DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES, PARTICULARLY TOWARD THE
RUSSIANS. HE SAID THE EUROPEANS THINK THAT ATTACKS ON
KISSINGER BY PRESIDENT FORD'S OPPONENTS MAY HAVE WEAKENED
THE SECRETARY'S ABILITY TO CARRY OUT POLICY.

"KISSINGER DESCRIBED THE SOVIET MILITARY BUILDUP AS PART OF A
CALCULATED, LONG-RANGE PLAN TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE WEST,
A SOURCE SAID.

"BY THIS THEORY, SHORT OF A MILITARY CONFRONTATION OR
VIRTUAL SURRENDER, THE UNITED STATES HAS NO ALTERNATIVE
TO THE CURRENT POLICY OF DETENTE AND MEANINGFUL PLANNING
FOR DEFENSE, NO MATTER WHO WINS THE ELECTION.

"DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID KISSINGER MADE NO DIRECT REFERENCE
TO THE EXPECTED PARTICIPATION OF COMMUNISTS IN THE ITALIAN
GOVERNMENT AFTER NEXT MONTH'S ELECTIONS. HOWEVER, THEY
SAID THE SECRETARY REPEATED A GENERAL WARNING ABOUT THE
EFFECT OF COMMUNISTS TAKING A ROLE IN WESTERN GOVERNMENTS.

...

"KISSINGER REPORTEDLY SAID THAT SINCE THE SOVIETS ARE
STRONG, THEY ARE TEMPTED TO USE THEIR STRENGTH BY THE
IDEOLOGISTS AMONG THEM. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF
WESTERN ECONOMIC STRENGTH, NOTING THAT THE MAIN AID THE
COMMUNIST WORLD HAS GIVEN TO THE POORER COUNTRIES IS
MILITARY AID. THERE SHOULD NEVER BE ANOTHER ANGOLA,
KISSINGER REPORTEDLY SAID."

2. UPI (NO BYLINE) -- "SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY
KISSINGER WAS CUT OFF BY NATO SEC GEN LUNS THURSDAY WHEN HE
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TRIED TO RAISE THE FORBIDDEN TOPIC OF POSSIBLE COMMUNIST
ELECTION GAINS IN ITALY AND FRANCE, DIPLOMATS SAID.

"ACCORDING TO ONE DIPLOMAT WHO ATTENDED THE CLOSED-DOOR

FIRST SESSION OF A TWO-DAY NATO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
MEETING, KISSINGER WARNED THE PRESENCE OF COMMUNISTS IN
NATO GOVERNMENTS WOULD HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON U.S.

PUBLIC OPINION.

"AT THAT POINT, THE DIPLOMAT SAID, LUNS . . . CUT OFF KISSINGER AND SUGGESTED HIS REMARKS BE CONSIDERED AS NOT HAVING BEEN MADE.

"KISSINGER PROMPTLY DENIED HE WAS RAISING THE ISSUE, DIPLOMATS SAID.

"A NATO SPOKESMAN REFUSED COMMENT ON THE INCIDENT. BUT HE SAID THERE HAD BEEN PRIOR AGREEMENT NOT TO RAISE THE TOPIC OF POSSIBLE COMMUNIST GAINS 'AND THE SUBJECT WAS NOT RAISED.'

"DESPITE WHAT OTHER DIPLOMATS SAID, U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT SOURCES DENIED THERE WAS ANY SUCH KISSINGER-LUNS EXCHANGE. THEY SAID KISSINGER MADE ONLY A VAGUE REFERENCE TO SUCH MATTERS, SAYING AMERICA WOULD NOT AGREE TO KEEP HANDS OFF EASTERN EUROPE IN EXCHANGE FOR THE SOVIETS KEEPING OUT OF WESTERN EUROPE."

3. LATER AP (FREED) ITEM: "SECSTATE HENRY A. KISSINGER SAID TODAY THE UNITED STATES WILL NOT PERMIT THE SOVIET UNION TO IMPOSE ITS IDEOLOGY ON THE WEST, ACCORDING TO A U.S. OFFICIAL. . . .

"OUTSIDE (NATO MEETING), SOME 5,000 YOUNG LEFTISTS PARADED THROUGH DOWNTOWN OSLO CARRYING SIGNS CONDEMNING

BOTH NATO AND THE PARALLEL SOVIET-BLOC GROUP, THE WARSAW PACT.

"MOUNTED POLICE DISPERSED SOME 20 YOUNG LEFTIST UNCLASSIFIED

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DEMONSTRATORS OUTSIDE THE CENTER. OTHERS PARADED FOR SEVERAL MILES, BLOCKING DOWNTOWN TRAFFIC, DEMONSTRATING AGAINST BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION.

"AS THEY PASSED THE U.S. EMBASSY, MANY SHOUTED, 'OUT WITH THE WAR CRIMINAL KISSINGER.' . . .

"CONFERENCE RULES PROHIBIT DELEGATES FROM GIVING STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS. BUT, AS USUAL AT NATO MEETINGS, THE BAN WAS WIDELY VIOLATED. (DELETING PREVIOUS REFERENCE TO U.S. OFFICIALS REFUSAL TO DISCUSS)

"KISSINGER, THE FIRST SPEAKER AT THE MEETING, DISCUSSED THE DEBATE OVER FOREIGN POLICY IN THE U.S. POLITICAL CAMPAIGN, ACCORDING TO DIPLOMATS WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING.

..

"EINAR AGUSTSSON, ICELAND'S FOREIGN MINISTER, TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE THURSDAY IT IS EXTREMELY LIKELY ICELAND WILL GIVE THE UNITED STATES SIX MONTHS NOTICE TO CLOSE THE BIG AMERICAN-MANNED NATO AIR BASE AT KEFLAVIK IF IT GETS NO SATISFACTION BEFORE THE NEXT NATO MEETING IN DECEMBER. ICELAND HAS ALREADY BROKEN RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN OVER BRITISH INSISTENCE ON FISHING WITHIN THE 200-MILE LIMIT CLAIMED BY ICELAND.

"KISSINGER CONTINUED TO ATTEMPT MEDIATION THURSDAY BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY, MEETING FOR BREAKFAST WITH GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER DIMITRI BITSIOS. KISSINGER TOLD REPORTERS AFTERWARD TURKEY CANNOT CONTINUE TO OCCUPY 40 PERCENT OF THE ISLAND IF A SOLUTION IS TO BE FOUND.

"THE SECRETARY WAS TO MEET WITH TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER ISHAN CAGLAYANGIL ON FRIDAY."

3. REUTER -- NO NELSON.

TELEVISION

4. NBC -- NO REFERENCE TO TRIP BY EITHER CHANCELLOR
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OR VALERIANI.

5. ABC -- REASONER: "AT THE NATO MEETING IN OSLO TODAY, SECSTATE KISSINGER SAID THE U.S. WOULD CONTINUE ITS POLICY OF DETENTE WITH THE SOVIET UNION NO MATTER WHO IS PRESIDENT NEXT YEAR. KISSINGER'S VIEW WAS THAT THE PRESENT BALANCE OF POWER MAKES DETENTE THE ONLY POSSIBLE COURSE. HE IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID BEHIND CLOSED DOORS THAT RUSSIA MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO USE ITS MILITARY STRENGTH OUTSIDE ITS CURRENT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, BUT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE SOVIET UNION WAS BENT ON WORLD DOMINATION."

6. CBS -- CRONKITE: "SECSTATE KISSINGER REPORTEDLY TOLD A CLOSED DOOR MEETING OF NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS TODAY THAT HE DOES NOT THINK THE SOVIET UNION IS INTENT ON WORLD DOMINATION. A DIPLOMAT SAID HE WARNED THE OSLO, NORWAY, MEETING THAT MOSCOW'S LARGE-SCALE MILITARY BUILDUP IS DESIGNED TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE WEST. THEY QUOTED KISSINGER AS SAYING THAT GIVEN THE CHANCE, MOSCOW WOULD BEHAVE AGGRESSIVELY AND ADVENTUROUSLY AND THE WEST MUST MAINTAIN THE MILITARY STRENGTH TO FORESTALL

THAT. MOSCOW'S MILITARY BUILDUP HAS BECOME A MAJOR
ISSUE IN THIS POLITICAL CAMPAIGN, PARTICULARLY ON THE
REPUBLICAN SIDE WHERE RONALD REAGAN IS CHARGING THE
U.S. NOW IS A SECOND-RATE POWER."

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